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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/083,351	02/27/2002	Noboru Hosokawa	500.41299X00	5746
24956	7590	01/04/2007	EXAMINER	
MATTINGLY, STANGER, MALUR & BRUNDIDGE, P.C. 1800 DIAGONAL ROAD SUITE 370 ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314			NGUYEN-BA, HOANG-VU A	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2623	
SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE		
3 MONTHS	01/04/2007	PAPER		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/083,351	HOSOKAWA, NOBORU
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Hoang-Vu A. Nguyen-Ba	2623

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 27 February 2002.
- 2a) This action is FINAL.
- 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-9 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-9 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on 27 February 2002 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner. Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a). Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 6/27/06.
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is responsive to the application filed February 27, 2002.
2. Claims 1-9 have been examined.

Priority

3. The priority date considered for this application is March 2, 2001, which is the filing date of the Application No. JP 2001-058716. A certified copy of the priority application has been received and placed in the application file.

Oath/Declaration

4. The Office acknowledges receipt of a properly signed oath/declaration filed February 27, 2002.

Information Disclosure Statement

5. The Office acknowledges receipt of the Information Disclosure Statement filed June 27, 2006. It has been placed in the application file and the information referred to therein has been considered.

Drawings

6. The drawings filed February 27, 2002 are accepted by the examiner.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 102

7. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. § 102 that form the basis for the rejection under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

8. Claims 1-3 and 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by the admitted prior art (APA) of pages 1-3 of Applicant's background.

Claim 1

APA discloses at least:

a central processing unit block (p. 2, lines 1-2); and

a peripheral block; wherein said peripheral block includes a video processing unit for processing video signals from an image picking-up device and generating video data, a network control unit for controlling transmission and reception of said video data transmitted and received through a transmission medium inclusive of a network (see at least p.1, lines 7-22), and a first bus for connecting in series without any branch said video processing unit and said network control unit (see at least p.2, line 27 to p. 3, line 7);

wherein said central processing unit block includes a central processing unit for processing said video data, a storage unit for storing video data from said video processing unit, a central control unit for controlling said video processing unit, said network control unit and said storage unit in cooperation with said central processing unit, and a second bus for connecting in series said central processing unit, said storage unit and said central control unit (p. 2, line 2 to p. 3, line 7); and

wherein said first bus and said second bus are connected through a first buffer (see at least p. 3, lines 8-15).

Claim 2

APA further discloses *wherein said central processing unit and said central control unit control said video processing unit, process the video signals from said image picking-up device and store the compressed video signals in a cycle of 1/30 fps and at a data transmission rate of at least 3.6 Mbps in said storage unit through said first bus, said first bus buffer and said second bus* (see at least p. 2, lines 2-16; it is noted that storing data at a rate of 1/30 fps and transmitting data at a rate of 3.6 Mbps through the bus appear to be admitted by Applicants as known in the art since Applicants claim in their disclosure that their system can transmit twice as fast as 3.6 Mbps (i.e., 7.2 Mbps at p. 9, line 21).

Claim 3

APA does not specifically disclose *wherein said central processing unit and said control unit read out said compressed video data from said storage unit at a data transmission rate of at least 14.4 Mbps for a request of four users from said network control unit, and transmit said compressed video data to said network control unit through said second bus, said first bus buffer and said first bus*. However, this feature is deemed inherent to APA because of the following reasons:

APA discloses at p. 3, lines 8-15 that using a plurality of DMA transmission functions for executing data access with a built-in buffer and with external equipment independently of command execution of CPU itself and a plurality of interfaces for exchanging data by using the DMA transmission functions under the state where no processing load is applied to CPU itself; and since the read out function is not *per se* one that requires the processing of the CPU

a simultaneous request of 4 users (3.6 Mbps/each * 4 = 14.4 Mbps) requiring 14.4 Mbps is deemed inherent to the circuit design incorporating a plurality of DAM transmission functions (e.g., 4 buffers).

Claim 7

APA does not specifically disclose *wherein said bus further connects in series a circuit for displaying an operating condition of said video transmission apparatus and a switch circuit for setting an operation of said video transmission apparatus*. However, these features are deemed inherent to APA because as discussed at p. 3, lines 16-27 of Applicant's background: 1) a CPU can connect to a JPEG compression circuit or a network control circuit; and 2) the aforementioned connection can be implemented through an interface; it is understood that there must be provided a switch in order to select either the JPEG compression circuit or the network control circuit and thus the switching function could be shown via the interface as to which connection is under operation. Without these inherent features, the system is inoperative.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 103

9. The following is a quotation of the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) which form the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

10. Claims 4-6 and 8-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over the admitted prior art of pages 2-5 of Applicant's background.

Claim 4

APA does not specifically disclose *wherein a second bus buffer is further connected in series to said second bus, and a third bus having expansion connectors connected thereto is connected to said second bus buffer*. However, APA does disclose that recent CPU has a plurality of DMA transmission functions for executing data access with a built-in buffer and with external equipment independently of command execution of CPU itself and a plurality of interfaces for exchanging data by using the DMA transmission functions. It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use this capability for transmitting data independently of command execution of CPU, as this would reduce overhead and increase the speed of transmission.

Claim 5

APA does not specifically disclose *wherein a video expansion unit is connected in series to said expansion connectors of said third bus, and a monitor is connected to said video expansion unit*. However, APA does disclose that recent CPU has a plurality of DMA transmission functions for executing data access with a built-in buffer and with external equipment independently of command execution of CPU itself and a plurality of interfaces for exchanging data by using the DMA transmission functions. It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use this capability for transmitting data independently of command execution of CPU, as this would reduce overhead and increase the speed of transmission.

Claim 6

APA does not specifically disclose *wherein said second bus provided to said central processing unit connects said central processing unit, said storage unit, said central control unit and said bus buffer in order named, and said first bus provided to said peripheral block connects said bus buffer, said network control unit and said video processing unit in order named*. However, APA does disclose that in order to conduct data transmission operations at a high speed, some video apparatuses employ a plurality of dedicated bus systems and that such systems enable CPU to simultaneously and independently exchange data with the JPEG compression circuit and with the network control circuit. It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify such a system such that these dedicated bus could be named in order. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do so for the purpose of facilitating the installation and the troubleshooting of additional dedicated bus systems.

Claim 8

APA does not specifically disclose *wherein a dumping resistor is connected to a starting point or an end point of each of said first and second buses and a terminating resistor is connected to the other*. However, Official notice is taken that dumping resistor is well known in the art to be used for the purpose of matching the characteristic impedance of two circuits on a wiring board and terminating resistor is well known in the art to be used in wiring board for the purpose of minimizing the deterioration of signal qualities without changing the constitution of a semiconductor unit (e.g., Abstract of JP 2002124775 A).

It would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use dumping and terminating resistors in APA when connecting additional bus for the purposes discussed above.

Claim 9

APA does not specifically disclose *wherein said peripheral block and said central processing unit block are arranged on the same packaging board, said central processing unit and said central control unit are positioned at said central processing unit block which is located at a substantial center of said packaging board, and said peripheral block is disposed at a peripheral area of said central processing unit block of said packaging board.* However, the positioning of the CPU and control unit at the center of circuit board is considered to be a matter of design choice for the purpose of providing the circuit with expansion capability by leaving the outer layer of the circuit board available for connection with add-on circuits and by minimizing the distance from the CPU and control unit to theses add-on circuits by the virtue of the CPU and control unit being at the center location on the circuit board.

It would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the aforementioned design choice in the list of choices available in APA for the purposes discussed above.

Conclusion

11. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to Applicant's disclosure.
12. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hoang-Vu "Antony" Nguyen-Ba

whose telephone number is (571) 272-3701. The examiner can normally be reached on Tuesday-Friday from 7:15 am to 5:35 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Miller can be reached at (571) 272-7353.

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the TC 2600 Group receptionist (571) 272-2600.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at (866) 217-9197 (toll-free).



ANTONY NGUYEN-BA
PRIMARY EXAMINER

December 22, 2006